

marked with black at the base, but otherwise (excepting at the pterostigma) the neuration is entirely pale: on the inner margin (opposite to the pterostigma) is an oblique, pale smoky-grey cloud.

Length of body, 16 mm. Expanse of wings, 49 mm. Greatest breadth of anterior wings, 11 mm.; posterior, 8 mm.

New Guinea (Ausus, *A. B. Meyer*, 1873).

This fine insect belongs to the Dresden Museum, and has been communicated by my friend Baron E. de Selys-Longchamps, to whom it was forwarded by Dr. Kirsch, of Dresden, for identification. I believe it is a ♂, but the abdomen has been laterally crushed.

It differs from *M. osmyloides* in its much larger size, semi-opaque, whitish, non-iridescent wings, the presence of smoky-grey marginal streaks or clouds, the broad claret-coloured vitta of the pronotum, &c.; and in *M. osmyloides*, the transverse reticulation is almost entirely black. I believe *osmyloides* extends into the Malayan islands (although it is typically from Queensland), and I have an example labelled "China," though there may be some doubt as to the correctness of this.

The two other Australian species, *M. sejunctus*, Walker, and *armatus*, McLachlan (possibly sexes of one) differ in their very much narrower anterior wings and less complicated neuration (the costal veinlets being for the most part simple), and also in their remarkable genital armature.

Lewisham, London:

6th August, 1877.

ON SOME NEW AND LITTLE-KNOWN FORMS OF *AGRIONINA* (*LÉGION PSEUDOSTIGMA*, DE SELYS).

BY R. McLACHLAN, F.R.S.

The group of tropical American *Odonata* forming the *Légion Pseudostigma* of the sub-family *Agrionina* is of extreme interest, as containing the largest of existing Dragon-flies, and on account of the extreme length of the slender abdomen, and the tendency exhibited to run into puzzling local forms. The *Légion* formed the first in De Selys' "Synopsis des Agrionines" (only just completed), and was worked up by him in 1860. With the exception of the description by Hagen (in 1869) of a new species, nothing has been written on the group since that time, and as so much has since been done towards the exploration of the regions where these insects occur, it is natural that additional materials should have been obtained. I propose to give here descriptions, &c., of a few remarkable forms existing in my own collection, being prompted thereto by the discovery of a species having a very anomalous neuration.

MICROSTIGMA TERMINATUM, *n. sp.*

Thorax black above, the dorsal keel narrowly yellow; a humeral line not reaching the anterior portion, and a short ante-humeral line anteriorly, scarcely extending beyond the termination of the humeral, yellow: sides, and beneath, yellow, with a complete narrow black median line on the sides, and a blackish central pectoral line. Abdomen (nearly destroyed) black, with an indication of a yellowish mark on each side of the anterior portion of the eighth segment. Wings hyaline, with black neurulation; in the anterior wings there is a broad fuscous ante-apical fascia, concave internally and externally, leaving a large, opaque, ochreous (not very finely reticulated), oval, yellow apical spot. No pterostigma in either pair of wings. In the posterior wings, the apical portion is also dark fuscous (but less broadly so), convex internally, and enclosing a small, rounded, milky-white spot at the extreme apex.

Expanse of anterior wings, 114 mm.

I have one very much mutilated ♀ example, believed to be from East Peru (district of the Ucayali River). It wants head, legs, and basal segments of the abdomen, and the basal portion of the wings is also destroyed (by *Anthreni*). The coloration of the anterior wings is somewhat similar to that seen in *M. rotundatum*, race *exustum*, but the wings are not so broad, the reticulation less dense, and the broad ante-apical portion is darker (nearly black): the posterior wings are remarkable for the small rounded white spot in the dark apical portion. Thoroughly distinct from any described species.

ANOMISMA, *n. g.*

Allied to *Microstigma*. Differs from all known *Agrionina* in the quadrilateral area at the base of the wings being reticulated by transverse nervules, long; wings petiolated up to just within the level of the nodus; reticulation of the post-costal area not greatly ramified, forming 3—4 rows of irregular cellules in its broadest part; no pterostigma in either pair of wings.

ANOMISMA ABNORME, *n. sp.*

Black. Head black above, yellow at the back; a short yellow oblique line before and behind the basal joint of the antennæ; labrum narrowly margined with yellow; under-side yellow. Prothorax yellow at the sides, the posterior margin narrowly yellow, the anterior portion with a narrow raised yellow line just within the extreme margin, which remains black. Thorax with a narrow yellow dorsal keel, a yellow humeral line (not reaching the anterior margin), and a short yellow ante-humeral line anteriorly: sides and beneath yellow; a complete black lateral line, and a black pectoral line, furcate posteriorly, connected with a transverse black line behind the legs, and there are two or three small black spots. Legs yellow, with black spines; femora externally, tibiae and tarsi internally, with a black line. Abdomen bronzy-black, yellow beneath, but with a black ventral line; 1st and 2nd segments broadly yellow on the sides, and with a narrow median dorsal yellow line, interrupted by the suture; genitalia of 2nd segment yellow. (Mutilated after the 6th segment). Wings rather narrow, the anterior pair rounded at the apex, the posterior narrower and elliptical: hyaline, with black neurulation. In the anterior

wings, less than the apical fifth is occupied by a large opaque yellow space (not very finely reticulated), bordered internally by a rather narrow smoky band, expanding on the inner margin, and concave externally in an oblique manner: the posterior wings have the extreme apex narrowly margined with blackish, which colour extends a short distance along the principal sector; otherwise these wings are altogether hyaline.

Length of abdomen to end of 6th segment, 47 mm. Expanse of wings, 102 mm. Length of posterior wing, 50 mm.: greatest breadth of same, 10 mm.

I have one ♂ from the same locality as *M. terminatum*. Although evidently allied to *Microstigma*, and of the same *facies*, this genus at present rests alone in the sub-family in having a reticulated quadrilateral. This area is long; in both posterior wings there are two transverse nervules in it; in one anterior wing there are three, in the other two, so that two is probably the normal number. The genus is also peculiar, in having the wings petiolated almost up to the level of the nodus.

MECISTOGASTER JOCASTE, Hagen.

Stett. ent. Zeit., 1869, p. 260.

I have a ♂ labelled as from Columbia, rather smaller than that described by Hagen (expanse, 75 mm.). A ♀ from New Grenada (expanse, 90 mm.) differs from the ♂ in having the extreme apex of the anterior wings smoky-brown.

From East Peru (?) and Pebas, Upper Amazons, I have two ♀ (expanse, 101 and 104 mm.) of what is perhaps only a race of this, and which has long stood in my collection (and also in that of De Selys) as *M. sincerus*, McLach., MS. It differs from typical *Jocaste* in all the wings (especially the posterior) being tinged with smoky-brown, insensibly shading into the dark portion before the apical spot in the posterior wings; in the anterior wings, the dark apical portion is much broader than in ♀ *Jocaste*.

I would remark that in both forms the apical spot of the posterior wings is pure white, rather than "*niveo-flavo*" as described by Hagen.

MECISTOGASTER ASTICTUS (Burm.), De Selys.

I have two ♂ and one ♀ from Minas Geraes. The ♂ has not yet been described. This sex is somewhat smaller (expanse, 80—85 mm.). It differs from the ♀ in having the wings altogether hyaline (without white apical space). There is no true pterostigma, but in its place are several thickened black nervules, and in the posterior wings, the costal vein is also thickened at this part, and rather suddenly elevated, so as to form almost an angle.

Lowisham, London:

August 10th, 1877.